

**MINUTES
BLAWNOX BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regular Meeting April 14th, 2021**

Call to Order

President Laskey called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. on Zoom due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

The roll was called to establish a quorum.

Council Members Present: Meghan Kennedy, Elaine Palmer, Katie Coban, Jessica Dayhoff, John Simmons, President Deborah Laskey and Vice President Randall Stoddard

Council Members Not Present: None

Also Present: Solicitor, Sam Dalfonso; Borough Engineer, Gordon Taylor; Borough Manager, Kathy Ulanowicz; Assistant Borough Manager, Mallori McDowell; Junior Council Person Mona Gerges; and Borough Mayor Anthony Gross were present.

Comments from the Public

No Comments from the Public

Agenda Items

Motion to approve Council Meeting Minutes of the March 11, 2021 meeting.

Moved: Ms. Coban Second: Mr. Simmons Motion Carried: 7-0

Motion to approve bills from the General Fund for March in the amount of \$83,750.83.

Moved: Ms. Kennedy Second: Mr. Stoddard Motion Carried: 7-0

Finance Committee

- 1) We received the Audit back from Maher Duessel and Councilwoman Kennedy has reviewed it and thinks everything looks great. Manager Ulanowicz shared that if anyone wants Bob from Maher Duessel to come to a council meeting or if they just have a few questions to ask the auditors to let her know.

Property and Planning

- 1) Councilwoman Dayhoff shared that the Property and Planning Committee continue to meet with Tom Costello on the Zoning Ordinance. They met last week and have gotten through the hardest part of the ordinance, the definitions. Councilwoman Dayhoff thinks that the Ordinance will be ready in early Quarter 3.
- 2) Councilwoman Dayhoff also shared that the Property and Planning Committee had reviewed the plans for the Stanczak variance. The Stanczak's live on North Avenue and are requesting a variance to allow the garage they are building to be 20 ft instead of the

14 ft allowed in our Zoning Ordinance. The committee has no issue since they will not be blocking anyone's view. The variance will now go to the Zoning Hearing Board for their review.

Strategic Planning – Nothing to Report

Public Safety

- 1) Motion to Approve Resolution 2021-08 Allegheny County's, Hazard Mitigation Plan
Moved: Ms. Kennedy Second: Ms. Palmer Motion Carried: 7-0
- 2) Motion to Approve Resolution 2021-09 Authorizing the Implementation of National Incident Management System [NIMS]
Moved: Mr. Simmons Second: Mr. Stoddard Motion Carried: 7-0

Public Works

- 1) Manager Ulanowicz shared that Blawnox has received \$75,000 from the CITF grant to purchase and install the remaining new water meters. We had asked for about \$100,000 but we also budget money to buy some meters so we should be able to complete the project.

Community Events

- 1) Councilwoman Coban shared that the Best of Blawnox Group is now a thriving volunteer organization and have several events coming up. Carol Hillwig who is heading up the Community Garden project has already received about \$5,000 in grants to buy seeds and other things they need and to put up fencing. Mayor Gross shared that the fence is up. Carol has about 10 members helping her with the garden.
- 2) The Memorial Day parade is still planned for a 10:00 am start at the Sunoco station. Chief Goodman is still working with PennDot on a permit for the event.

Reports (Available Upon Request)

A. Manager's Report – In the packets no questions

B. Engineer's Report – Gordon Taylor – In the packets no questions.

7. We have received a pay application from JetJack for the Sewer and Manhole repair project.

Motion to approve JetJack Periodic Estimate #1 \$23,770.80.

Moved: Ms. Kennedy Second: Ms. Coban Motion Carried: 7-0

Mayor Gross shared that behind the brewery in the alley, the brewery owners tried to have a patch done on the road but it was not done correctly. Gordon has given them instructions on how they must fix the road and they will do it as soon as possible.

Old Business

Ordinance 615 Eliminating PAH Discussion – Manager Ulanowicz shared that Sharpsburg has passed their PAH ordinance but they don't know how they can enforce it at this point. The other members of the COG are looking to pass a resolution of best practices advising against using

the PAHs. Councilman Stoddard thinks something should be passed to educate the public on the issues. Councilwoman Laskey said that we will still keep this tabled until next month.

Glass Recycling – Manager Ulanowicz shared that she has worked with O'Hara Township and Aspinwall and we were going to enter into an agreement to Recycle together. We will be doing a pilot program with the PRC that will cost \$1,000 dollars for the container which will be placed in the O'Hara Township Municipal Building parking lot. The additional costs to the three communities will involve preparing the site for the recycling bin and picking up the bin when it is full.

Motion to Approve the Glass Recycling Agreement with O'Hara Township and Aspinwall.

Moved: Ms. Dayhoff

Second: Ms. Palmer

Motion Carried: 7-0

New Business

American Relief Program – As part of the American Relief Program, the newest Coronavirus bill passed, the Borough of Blawnox is set to receive \$137,229 in federal funding. From what Manager Ulanowicz understands it will be one lump sum in June of 2021 and another in June of 2022. She believes we will have four years to spend the money. She hopes we will be able to use it to repair the sewer line with the large infiltration problem. The final guidelines on how it may be spent are not out yet though.

Morton Salt Agreement – the Borough needs to approve the new two-year Morton Salt Agreement. Despite the increase requested by Morton Salt the contract is better than any bids that are being opened currently.

Motion to Approve the Morton Salt Agreement.

Moved: Mr. Stoddard

Second: Ms. Coban

Motion Carried: 7-0

Waste Management Contract – The Borough must decide if we plan to execute the one or two year option we have left on our Waste Management Contract. The COG is going out to bid but their current contract is higher than the cost in both of our option years. Kathy would like to see the COG documents before we make a final decision. We could opt to go in with the COG, execute the extensions on our current contract, or go out to bid on our own.

Mayor Gross asked to discuss our new Fire Marshall. He said that the new Fire Marshall needs to be sworn in soon and that he does not know what the oath needs to say. Assistant Manager McDowell volunteered to see what she could find. We also need to outfit the new Fire Marshall, at the very least get him a jacket, but we should ask him what exactly he wants.

Mayor Gross also asked when Council would get to see the new Fire Department By-Laws. Councilman Simmons said they had passed the Fire Department and would be in front of his committee in May and the full Council in June.

Comments from the Public – Non-Agenda Items

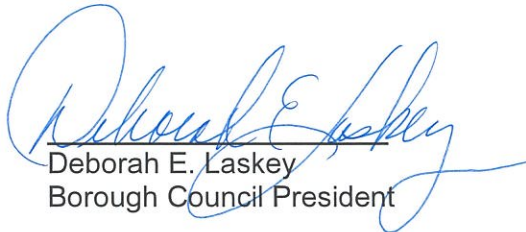
A representative from ALCOSAN's Municipal Outreach department was on the call and thanked us for a good meeting. She said Kimberly Slater Woods, who is the head of the department, should be reaching out soon to see how ALCOSAN can assist the Borough.

Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

ATTEST:


Kathy Ulanowicz
Borough Manager


Deborah E. Laskey
Borough Council President